

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A server apparatus, comprising:

a first sharing unit that shares a print environment thereof with other apparatuses on a network, wherein the first sharing unit includes

a connection management unit that manages, in response to a print reservation input by a user, the print reservation including a print location, the connecting of the first sharing unit to a second sharing unit of a second server apparatus on the network, the second server being selected based on ~~acquired~~ route information acquired based on the print location input by the user, the route information including a list of servers defining a route from the server apparatus to a third server at the print location, the route including the second server apparatus; and

a transfer unit that transfers information of the print reservation, the acquired route information, and a document related to the print reservation to the second sharing unit of the second server apparatus for routing to the third server and then to a print server connected to a printer at the print location identified in the information of the print reservation.

2. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the connection management unit adds connection data related to the second sharing unit to service data indicating other sharing units in the network that are connected to the first sharing unit, in response to a connection request from the second sharing unit.

3. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the connection management unit deletes connection data related to the second sharing unit from

service data indicating other sharing units that are connected to the first sharing unit in response to a disconnection request from the second sharing unit.

4. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the connection data related to the second sharing unit added to the service data are managed as one of upper level data, same level data, and lower level data, which indicates a hierarchical relationship between the first sharing unit and the second sharing unit within the network.

5. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus as claimed in claim 2, further comprising:

a service data storage unit that stores the service data.

6. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the first sharing unit further comprises:

an acquisition unit that acquires the service data from the second sharing unit.

7. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first sharing unit further comprises:

a consistency check unit that checks consistency of a connection state in which the second sharing unit is connected to the first sharing unit and a disconnection state in which the second sharing unit is disconnected from the first sharing unit.

8. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising: server

a reservation data storage unit that stores the reservation information and the document.

9. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a document acquisition unit that acquires the document.

10. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a document management service unit that provides a service for managing the document.

11. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a document storage unit that stores the document.

12. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a print service unit that provides service related to printing.

13. (Previously Presented) The server apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a print unit that prints the document.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a sharing service in which a first sharing unit shares a print environment thereof with a second sharing unit, the first and second sharing units being provided in respective first and second servers on a network, ~~the network including at least one print server and at least one printer~~, the method comprising the steps of:

managing, in response to a print reservation input by a user, the print reservation including a print location, the connecting and the disconnecting of the second sharing unit, the second server being selected based on ~~acquired~~ route information acquired based on the print location input by the user, the route information including a list of servers defining a route from the first server to a third server at the print location, the route including the second server; and

transferring, over the network, information of the print reservation, the acquired route information, and a document related to the print reservation to the second sharing unit for routing to the third server and then to a print server connected to a printer at the print location identified in the information of the print reservation.

15. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising the step of:

adding data related to the second sharing unit to service data including data related to other sharing units to which the first sharing unit can refer, in response to a connection request from the second sharing unit.

16. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising the step of:

deleting data related to the second sharing unit from service data including data related to other sharing units to which the first sharing unit can refer, in response to a disconnection request from the second sharing unit.

17. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the data related to the second sharing unit added to the service data are managed as one of upper level data, same level data, and lower level data, which indicates a hierarchical relationship between the first sharing unit and the second sharing unit within the network.

18. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising the step of:  
checking consistency of a connection state in which the second sharing unit is connected to the first sharing unit and a disconnection state in which the second sharing unit is disconnected from the first sharing unit.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium storing a computer program that, when executed by a computer, causes the computer to share a print environment thereof with a second computer, by executing the steps of:

managing, in response to a print reservation input by a user, the print reservation including a print location, connecting and disconnecting of the second computer with the computer, the computer and the second computer being arranged on a network, ~~the network including at least one print server and at least one printer~~, the second computer being selected based on ~~acquired~~ route information acquired based on the print location input by the user, the route information including a list of computers defining a route from the computer to a third computer at the print location, the route including the second computer; and

transferring, over the network, information of the print reservation, the route information, and a document related to the print reservation to the second computer for routing to the third computer and then to a print server connected to a printer at the print location identified in the information of the print reservation.

20. (Previously Presented) The computer readable-medium as claimed in claim 19, wherein the program further comprises the step of:

adding data related to the other computer to service data including data related to third computers to which the computer can refer, in response to a connection request from the second computer.

21. (Previously Presented) The computer readable-medium as claimed in claim 19, wherein the program further comprises the step of:

deleting data related to the second computer from service data including data related to third computers to which the computer can refer, in response to a disconnection request from the other computer.

22. (Previously Presented) The computer readable-medium as claimed in claim 20, wherein the data related to the second computer added to the service data are managed as one of upper level data, same level data, and lower level data, which indicates a hierarchical relationship between the computer and the second computer within the network.

23. (Previously Presented) The computer readable-medium as claimed in claim 19, wherein the program further comprises the step of:

checking consistency of a connection state in which the other computer is connected to the computer and a disconnection state in which the other computer is disconnected from the computer.

24-101. (Canceled)